

## REPORT

The committee who were instructed to enquire into the expediency of procuring a map of the State to be made at public expense have had the subject under consideration and respectfully report:

That the map published by Dennis Griffith in the year 1794, is the only map of the State of Maryland now extant. It was compiled at a period when the localities of the north western section of the state were little known and from its imperfect execution and the changes which successful enterprize have wrought over the surface of our country, must be admitted to be in a great degree at the present time, delusive and unsatisfactory and cannot be compared with those beautiful maps of other States with which it hangs on the walls of our public Library in humiliating contrast.—The literary character of our State, and the absolute convenience and utility of such a work for her own public purposes as well as the private advantage of her citizens seem to require that a new map should be executed at public expense. Considerations of great importance certainly render it highly desirable that this State should proceed with the execution of this work with the least possible delay. It is necessary that we should be more distinctly informed of the present geography of the country in which we live, the relative positions of its principal towns and marts of commerce, of its most frequented highways and approaches; of the sources, directions and capabilities of its streams and rivers; of its varieties of mountain and valley; and of the qualities of its soils; and the localities and extent of its mineral treasures.

Information of this character is useful as it tends to invite the foreign emigrant, and guides the adventurous citizen who leaves his paternal home in search of a new settlement. It is necessary to direct our trading enterprize and wealth into productive channels. It is necessary for the purposes of ordinary legislation, and, it is equally necessary for the purposes of social life. But such information, so useful, so important, so necessary at this time, is nowhere to be found. Little is furnished by our present map—very little is furnished by other publications. Though contracted in territorial extent, and in that view comparatively populous.